



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 11-403

March 1, 2011

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU APPROVES REGION 5 (SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA) 700 MHZ REGIONAL PLAN AMENDMENT

WT Docket No. 02-378

Introduction. On November 5, 2010, the Region 5 (Southern California)¹ 700 MHz Regional Planning Committee (RPC) submitted a proposed modification (Plan Amendment) to amend its 700 MHz Public Safety Plan² for General Use spectrum in the 769-775/799-805 MHz band.³ In addition, on November 22, 2010, Region 5 submitted Letters of Concurrence from its three adjacent regions, Region 3 (Arizona), Region 6 (Northern California), and Region 27 (Nevada). For the reasons discussed below, we approve the Region 5 700 MHz Plan Amendment.

Background. In 1998, the Commission established a structure to allow regional planning committees (RPCs) optimal flexibility to meet state and local needs, encourage innovative use of the spectrum, and accommodate new and as yet unanticipated developments in technology and equipment.⁴ There are fifty-five RPCs, and each committee is required to submit its plan for the General Use spectrum.⁵ The Commission's role in relation to the RPCs is limited to (1) defining the regional boundaries; (2) requiring fair and open procedures, *i.e.*, requiring notice, opportunity for comment, and reasonable consideration; (3) specifying the elements that all regional plans must include; and (4)

¹ The Region 5 (Southern California) 700 MHz regional planning area consists of ten counties: Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Bernadino, San Diego, Kern, San Louis Obispo and Ventura.

² See Letter from David Buchanan, Chair, Region 5 700 MHz Regional Planning Committee, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 02-378 (filed Nov. 5, 2010) (Plan Amendment); see also Letter from David Buchanan, Chair, Region 5 700 MHz Regional Planning Committee, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 02-378 (filed Nov. 22, 2010) (providing letters of concurrence from Regions 3, 6 and 27).

³ The General Use spectrum is administered by regional planning committees (RPCs) and is licensed for public safety services on a site-by-site basis in accordance with the relevant Commission-approved regional plan and frequency coordination.

⁴ See 47 C.F.R. § 90.527; see also Development of Operational, Technical and Spectrum Requirements for Meeting Federal, State and Local Public Safety Agency Communication Requirements Through the Year 2010, WT Docket No. 96-86, *First Report and Order and Third Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, 14 FCC Rcd 152 (1998) (*First Report and Order*); Development of Operational, Technical and Spectrum Requirements For Meeting Federal, State and Local Public Safety Agency Communication Requirements Through the Year 2010, WT Docket No. 96-86, *Second Memorandum Opinion and Order*, 15 FCC Rcd 16844 (2000).

⁵ See 47 C.F.R. § 90.527. Each RPC must incorporate certain common elements into its 700 MHz plan. A list of 700 MHz RPCs and region activities is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/public-safety-spectrum/700-MHz/>.

reviewing and accepting proposed plans (or amendments to approved plans) or rejecting them with an explanation.⁶

On July 31, 2007, the Commission adopted a *Second Report and Order* revising the rules governing wireless licenses in the 700 MHz band.⁷ The Commission adopted a plan for the 700 MHz band to establish a nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband communications network for the benefit of state and local public safety users. The Commission designated the lower half of the 700 MHz public safety band for broadband communications (763-768/793-798 MHz) and consolidated existing narrowband allocations in the upper half of the public safety 700 MHz band (769-775/799-805 MHz).

Review of the Region 5 Plan Amendment. The Plan Amendment modified the Plan by:

- Revising the frequency allocations to provide additional channel allotments for the County of Riverside to expand to additional sites, and to resolve interference concerns impacting the Counties of Orange and San Diego at some sites.
- Revising the frequency allocations by moving some existing allocations for the County of Orange for interference reasons.
- Annotating the new allocations for the County of Riverside as “fill-in” which means the allotments are not useable in all areas of the county and must be engineered on a per site basis.
- Providing additional new allocations for the Los Angeles World Airports (City of Los Angeles) at designated airports: LAX-Los Angeles Airport, and Van Nuys for the Van Nuys Airport. These allocations are only for the vicinity of each respective airport.

The Plan Amendment was reviewed by, and letters of concurrence obtained from, all three regions adjacent to Region 5: Region 3 (Arizona); Region 6 (Northern California); and Region 27 (Nevada).⁸

On December 29, 2010, the Region 5 Plan Amendment was placed on *Public Notice* for comment.⁹ We received no comments. We have reviewed the Region 5 Plan Amendment, and conclude, based on the information before us that it complies with Commission rules and policies. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 4(i) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 154(i), and Section 1.102(b) of the Commission’s rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.102(b), the Region 5 (Southern California) 700 MHz Public Safety Plan Amendment is APPROVED.

⁶ *First Report and Order*, 14 FCC Rcd at 195 ¶ 87.

⁷ Implementing a Nationwide, Broadband, Interoperable Public Safety Network in the 700 MHz Band; Development of Operational, Technical and Spectrum Requirements for Meeting Federal, State and Local Public Safety Communications Requirements Through the Year 2010, PS Docket No. 06-229, WT Docket No. 96-86, *Second Report and Order*, 22 FCC Rcd 15289 (2007).

⁸ See 47 C.F.R. 90.527(a)(5) (requiring that each regional planning committee provide an explanation of how its plan has been coordinated with adjacent regions).

⁹ See Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau Seeks Comments on Region 5 (Southern California) 700 MHz Plan Amendment, WT Docket No. 02-378, *Public Notice*, 25 FCC Rcd 17773 (PSHSB 2010). Comments were due January 18, 2011, and reply comments were due January 28, 2011.

This action is taken under delegated authority pursuant to Sections 0.191 and 0.392 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.191, 0.392.

Action by the Chief, Policy Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau.

- FCC -